

Patapsco Tributary



The Program Newsletter for Patapsco Valley State Park

Volume 9 Issue 1



Spring& Summer 2010

Farewell to the Union Dam

By: Steve McCoy



If you have ever paddled a kayak or canoe down the Patapsco River, you have undoubtedly encountered a wide variety of wildlife, scenic areas and historic structures. You have surely also had to take out and portage around a dam or two (or as many as three within the park). While these dams do hearken back to an historic time of industrialization along the Patapsco, many biologists and outdoor enthusiasts agree that they now impede the migration of fish species, adversely affect water quality and inconvenience and endanger recreational users of the river.

However, there is now good news for paddlers and lovers of the Patapsco River. During the spring of 2010, Union Dam will be removed, re-establishing river flow below the Hollofield Area, just upriver from the Rt. 40 Bridge. Also in the planning stages is the removal of Simkins Dam, off River Road near its intersection with Thistle Road. While this dam is not within park property, its removal will still affect the flow of the Patapsco River through the park. Both dams will be removed in the next two years as part of a \$4 million river-restoration project paid for with federal stimulus funds

Union Dam and Simkins Dam were built in the early 1900s to supply area textile mills. Union Dam supplied water power for the J.W. Dickey Textile Mills on Oella, in Baltimore County, across the Patapsco River from Ellicott City. The dam was partially breached in 1972 during tropical storm Agnes.

The dams' removal has been in the works for years through collaboration among the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the national nonprofit organization American Rivers and the Friends of the Patapsco Valley State Park. A broader plan to remove a total of four dams from the river's lower section would include the Daniels Dam, upriver from the Simkins and Union dams, and the Bloede Dam, down river from them. Union, Daniels and Bloede Dam are owned by DNR while Simkins Dam is owned by Simkins Industries, Inc. Some studies have been done on the removal of Bloede Dam, but at this time the removal of Daniels Dam has not been fully discussed among DNR officials.

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by Ranger Captain Robin Melton, Park Manager

Wow, what a winter! I have often heard people wonder what exactly a park ranger does in the winter. We look forward to winter as an opportunity to complete complex and routine maintenance projects, prepare for next season's staff by planning training and conducting hiring. We remove hazardous trees while the leaves are off, service equipment, attend training, take our vacations, build our interpretive calendar, develop new interpretive programs, refresh signs, work on structures, complete building and house inspections (Patapsco has over 100 buildings). We order concessions supplies and operational supplies – cases and cases of toilet paper! We complete boundary recovery, follow-up on encroachments, and conduct and participate in managed hunts to reduce the deer population in areas throughout the central region of Maryland. Often we a busier in the winter than we are in the main season, as there is much to do and far fewer people to help accomplish all the many tasks.

The park remains open year-around, some facilities are closed as they were not designed to be in operation in the winter. Yes, there are fewer people using the park, but at Patapsco and Soldiers Delight our areas are still very busy in the winter time. Patapsco and Soldiers Delight are urban parks and are the immediate backyard for thousands of people. Winter offers a new perspective for the hiker, biker or horseback rider, the lack of leaf cover opens up new views, hidden treasures and hidden trash, outstanding views of birds and other wildlife, and this year for the first time in several years Mother Nature added a thick blanket of snow to the park landscape.

We got record snow in central Maryland this year, offering the opportunity for the first time in many years for people to enjoy winter activities close to home. Cross Country skiing, snow shoeing, sledding are all activities that rarely occur at Patapsco, but this year those opportunities abound. You needed to hike to see many of these places, or engage in these activities because we do not have the equipment to clear the roads as quickly as state highways.

I'm writing this on the Thursday after Round 2 of the February Blizzard that closed down the Federal Government for a week and State Government for several days, and most businesses missed days of precious productivity. We are having trouble getting our folks into work – their roads remain unplowed, but yet I know within days people will be clamoring to play in their parks once again, time is short, and there is much to do, this snow will not melt overnight and moving it was not on the winter work plan. Often what a Park Ranger does in the winter time is all laid out in a plan, but snow removal is not. Teamwork and long days will open our areas once again for everyone to play, but I find myself looking to spring when the leaves come out and our new and old programs start to unfold for the year.

There will be some changes at Patapsco this year! The Maryland Park Service's Alcohol Policy goes into full effect. For Patapsco, this means that alcoholic beverages are only allowed by permit at our large shelters (greater than 60 person capacity). Alcoholic beverages will be prohibited and alcohol permits will not be available to our small shelter renters. At the beginning of this season alcoholic beverages will not be allowed in our campgrounds. All of these changes are designed to maintain the family atmosphere within our parks.

Guests with pets will have greater access to our day-use areas at Patapsco. We have expanded access in all of our areas. There are now parking areas at all of our day-use areas for guests arriving with pets. Pets are still largely restricted to trails, but in areas like McKeldin they have been given park-wide access with a few exceptions. Avalon/Orange Grove/ and Glen Artney continue to have many areas where pets are prohibited, but internal parking has been added and greater access in the Orange Grove area has been added. Visit our web page or pick up our new brochure for pet owners which gives details on where you and your pet can travel in Patapsco.

It is important for pet owners to follow the leash requirements and to pick-up after your pet. We conducted a period for public input regarding changes in State Park pet policies this past fall and received many comments. The comments were overwhelmingly in favor of expanding our pet access. The negative comments we received were largely about pets off leash and pet owners failing to clean-up after their pet. The actions of a few often dictate the restrictions placed on the many. Please encourage your fellow pet owners who visit State Park areas to follow the rules, keep their pet leashed (physically tethered, no electronic leashes), and clean up after their pet.

Our Nature Center in Hilton should begin to have regular hours this season. This nature center focuses on children, providing displays and activities that young people can get involved in while at the park. This year we hope to have one of our seasonal naturalists based out of the Nature Center.

Hilton's campground operation will expand to 7 days-a-week between Memorial Day and Labor Day, with expansions in Youth Group camping in both Hilton and McKeldin following the same expanded schedule as the Hilton campground.

Our webpage will get a new face this season too. It should be more user friendly, with information specific to each area and an easy to use menu system to navigate the page.

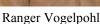
Some things will be back this season too. We will host 100 young people from Baltimore City as part of our Civic Justice Corps. These young people get an introduction to the outdoors and outdoor careers, by completing various projects throughout the park. Trail work, picnic table construction, natural gardening, fence installation, painting/staining and sign construction are just some of the projects these youths will be involved with in 2010. Park Quest will return to the Maryland State Park System, this is a family challenge activity which invites families on different quests at State Parks throughout Maryland. Last year, Patapsco's Quest was a disk golf challenge at the McKeldin area. This year we will be hosting a challenging historic scavenger hunt in the Avalon Area of Patapsco and a Quest of the nearly Forgotten and Almost Lost. at Soldier's Delight. For families interested in participating in this year's Park Quest check out the Maryland Park Service webpage at http://www.dnr.state.md.us/. Gunpowder State Park will host the grand finale for this event at their Hammerman area in September; families who have completed a minimum of 10 quests will be invited to participate in this fun filled day of family games.

Our volunteers remain a hugely important part of the Patapsco family. Volunteers are involved in many areas of park operation and allow us to offer so many opportunities for the park visitor that we would not be able to offer otherwise. Our volunteer coordinator, Amy Shoop, left us at the end of November to pursue a career growth opportunity. So we have been without a dedicated coordinator for most of the winter. I am pleased to welcome our new volunteer coordinator Meagan Cooper, please take a few minutes to learn more about Meagan on page 9. Meagan comes with some new ideas and past experience in South Carolina State Parks. We hope our volunteers will be thrilled with her energy and enthusiasm as she re-energizes our volunteer program.

As I look at the 4 feet of snow outside my office window, I smile, knowing that we have an exciting season coming, filled with interesting programs and new initiatives and I know that with just a few 50 degree days we will be snow free. But for now, I smile at the sparkling white snow and marvel at how much the view from my window changes with only a few inches of snow! Get out and enjoy your park, when the leaves are popping out and the robin's return, for that is when I will see you on the trail once again!

Certified Rangers







Ranger Brooks



Ranger Mouton



Ranger Nevins

During this past year, four of Patapsco's park rangers (Ranger Brooks, Ranger Mouton, Ranger Nevins and Ranger Vogelpohl) attended Ranger School. This ranger school was a month long training in different parts of Maryland, far far away from their home of Patapsco Valley State Park. This school involved the rangers in many different scenarios and real life situation to help new rangers get comfortable with doing their jobs efficiently. All four of Patapsco's Rangers graduated from Ranger school and are now back home and ready to tackle any obstacle that is in their path.

Spring & Summer 2010 Program Calendar

Denotes programs suitable for wheelchairs. Accommodations for individuals with disabilities will be provided upon request. Seven days advance notice is required.

Program fees do not include park admission. Directions to the addresses listed in all park programs are on page 15.

In general, program fees are \$2.00 per person. Program involving Scales & Tales animals are \$5.00. Additional fees may be added to cover the cost of program materials. Programs led by volunteers are generally free, but donations are accepted and given to the appropriate park "Friends of" organization to benefit the park.

APRIL

April 3: A Family Affair - Avalon 10 am -12pm.

Join a naturalist and learn about the bluebird family Meet at the Avalon History Center. This is a great family program for the ages of 10 and up. Wear clothes you don't mind getting dirty, and a note pad. 5120 South Street, Halethorpe, MD 21227. Please call 410-461-5005 in advance. Cost: \$2 per person.

April 3: Bad Bad Plants - Avalon 11 am – 12 pm.

Have you ever thrown a dead plant outside thinking it would do no harm? Or maybe it does!? This program can answer that question for you. Be prepared to explore the world of invasive species and let your imaginations run wild. This is a great family program for ages 8-12 yrs. Meet at Lost Lake in the Avalon Area of Patapsco Valley State Park. 5120 South Street, Halethorpe, MD 21227. Please call 410-461-5005 in advance. Cost: \$2 per person.

April 6: Beetle Bugs - Hilton 10 am – 12 pm.
Explore the world of ladybugs and other beetles with lots of hands-on activities and ladybug craft. Make a beetle home and take home a beetle "baby". This program caters to children from the ages of 3-5 yrs old. The program will be held at the Hilton Nature Center. 1101 Hilton avenue, Catonsville MD 21228. Please call 410-461-5005 in advance to sign up. Cost: \$4 per person (materials included).

April 10: Slash and Burn - Soldiers Delight 10 - 11 am.

Put on your hiking boots and get ready to explore the scorched ground at Soldiers Delight Natural Environment Area. You will walk a mile and a half through this rough but unique terrain as you listen to a Ranger speak of the past and present, of this endangered realm's cycle of fire and renewal. This is a great family program for the ages of 7 and up. Meet at the Soldiers Delight Visitor Center. After the program you are welcome to tour the Soldiers Delight exhibit hall. 5100 Deer Park Road, Owings Mills, MD 21117. Please call 410-461-5005 in advance to sign up. Cost: \$2 per person.

April 10: Project Clean Stream 9am-12 pm.

Several streams to be cleaned up on this date throughout the Patapsco River Valley area. To register to cleanup or to organize a group cleanup of your own, email patapscofriend@gmail.com. RAIN OR SHINE!!! Cleanups to be held along Tiber Hudson, Sucker Branch, Sawmill Branch, Cooper's Run, Deep Run, Herbert Run and areas along the Patapsco River off of River Road. Cost: Free!

April 10:Star-gazing Program - Soldiers Delight 8-10p.m.

Come join volunteers from the Westminster Astronomy Club for an evening of star-gazing. Tonight's headline: "Saturn and Mars are at it Again, Moon tries to break up Fight." All programs are Rain or Shine. April highlight: journey of exploration from close to far; the Moon, Mars and Saturn. 5100 Deer Park Road, Owings Mills, MD 21117. Please call 410-549-3026 in advance to sign-up or for more information. Cost: Free! Donations welcome.

April 10: Intro to Camping - Hilton 1-3 p.m.

Have you ever camped before? Learn the basics of camping from a real camp host. Find out how to stay dry, eat well, and enjoy the great outdoors. Get tips and tricks to make camping even more fun. Bring your own tent for a trial set-up. Meet at shelter 245. 1101 Hilton Avenue Catonsville, MD 21228. Please call 410-461-5005 in advance to sign up. Cost: Free!

April 11: Story – Telling Hour - Soldiers Delight 1-2 pm.

A Volunteer Ranger will read short stories with nature or animal theme in the Soldiers Delight Visitor Center suitable for children accompanied by an adult. Meet at Visitor Center. 5100 Deer Park Road, Owings Mills, MD 21117. Please call 410-461-5005 in advance to sign up. Cost: Free!

April 13: History Walk - Avalon 6-7:15pm.

Join a Volunteer Ranger for a casual walk and talk about the 400 year history of the Orange Grove Area. This walk will include history of the Indians, the mills and Bloede Dam along the Patapsco River. This program is suitable for ages 10 & up and adults are welcome to join. Meet in the Orange Grove parking lot. 5120 South Street, Halethorpe, MD 21227. Please call 410-461-5005 in advance. Cost: Free!

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April 14: Fantastic Flying Machines - Hilton 10 am-12pm.

Why are the birds so busy at this time of year? We will learn about bird songs, feathers, eggs and nests with lots of hands-on activities. Along with a hike to spot some feathered friends. Meet at the Hilton Nature Center. This is a great family program for the ages of 2 to 4 years old. 1101 Hilton Avenue, Catonsville MD 21228. Please call 410-461-5005 in advance to sign up. *Cost: \$3 per person*.

April 17: Stream Exploration - Avalon 10 am-12 pm.

Have you ever wondered what was living in the streams in our area or are you tired of just sitting around the house with nothing to do? Well, come join a Park Ranger to get a hands-on experience learning about the organisms that call our streams home. Please bring clothes you don't mind getting wet! Meet at the Lost Lake picnic tables, 5120 South Street, Halethorpe, MD 21227. Please call 410-461-5005 in advance. *Cost: \$2 per person*.

April 17: Watershed Cleanup - Avalon 9 am -12 pm.

Watershed cleanup along Vineyard Springs Trail. Meet near Lost Lake parking lot. 5120 South Street, Halethorpe, MD 21227. To register to cleanup or to organize a group cleanup of your own, email patapscofriend@gmail.com. *Cost: Free!*

April 17: Stream Doctor - Daniels 10-11 am.

Who said doctors don't make house calls. Just like human beings, streams can get a check-up to see how healthy they are. For this stream check-up you'll be the doctor. You will conduct tests, some very similar to what your doctor uses, to see if our park stream is healthy. For ages 7 to 14. Group will meet near the boat ramp in the Daniels area of the park. 2090 Daniels Rd. Ellicott City. Please call 410-461-5005 in advance to sign up. *Cost: Free!*

April 17: Bird Hike - Mckeldin 8-11am.

Join a Park Ranger on a leisurely bird hike through the McKeldin area trails. Here is your chance to see and hear some of our local and migrant birds in a variety of habitats. The hike welcomes birders of all skill levels from beginning bird-watchers to advanced birders. Wear sturdy shoes, bring water and binoculars, and be prepared to hike up to a mile. This program is suitable for patrons 14 yrs and up. Meet at the parking lot near the contact station. 11676 Marriottsville Road, Marriottsville MD 21104. Please call 410-461-5005 in advance to sign up. *Cost: \$2 per person*.



April 18: Water Fun! - Oella 12 – 3pm.

Guided kayak/canoe ride along Patapsco River. Meet in Oella parking lot behind Trolley Stop Restaurant across the Ellicott City Bridge. Some level 2 rapids and a dam to walk around. Bring your own kayak or canoe. Sorry, no rentals available. Pack a lunch and water shoes. For questions, email tbetts@AACPS.org. To register, email patapscofriend@gmail.com. (Meets 3rd Sunday of every month through September). Rain or shine. *Cost: Free!*

April 18: Mining History Hike - Soldiers Delight 2-4:30pm.

Join Volunteer Ranger and mining historian Johnny Johnson on a two mile Mining History Hike to the historic Choate chromium mine. The history of mining in Soldiers Delight will be supplemented by demonstrations of mining artifacts. Participants will have the opportunity to pan chrome sands in a restored buddle (kind of like panning for gold). This program is a great family program for the ages of 10 and up, parents are welcome. For those who can only walk a short distance can drive part of the way, park, and then make a short walk over uneven terrain to the Choate Mine area where most of the program is conducted. Meet at Visitor Center. 5100 Deer Park Road, Owings Mills, MD 21117. Please call 410-329-3417 in advance to sign up or to obtain more information. *Cost: Free!*

April 19: Fun Hike - Avalon - 6-8pm.

Join a Volunteer Ranger for a picturesque two mile hike along a woodland trail and past several falls. Bring water and wear sturdy shoes. This hike is a suitable for the ages of 7 - adult. Meet at the Orange Grove parking lot. 5120 South Street, Halethorpe, MD 21227. Please call 410-461-5005 in advance. *Cost: Free!*

April 20: Sky Hunters - Hilton 10 am -12pm.

Do you think your wingspan can match that of an eagle's? Can you spot an object up to a mile away? Get up close with some of Patapsco's raptor residents and learn through hands-on activities. Includes live birds from our Scales & Tales program. This is a great family program for the ages of 3-5 yrs old. Meet at the Hilton Nature Center. 1101 Hilton avenue, Catonsville MD 21228. Please call 410-461-5005 in advance to sign up. *Cost: \$5 per person.*

April 25: Story – Telling Hour - Soldiers Delight 1-2 pm.

A Volunteer Ranger will read short stories with nature or animal themes in the Soldiers Delight Visitor Center suitable for children accompanied by an adult. Meet at Visitor Center. 5100 Deer Park Road, Owings Mills, MD 21117. Please call 410-461-5005 in advance to sign up. *Cost: Free!*

April 28: Mud, Soil and Rocks - Hilton 10 am -12 pm.

Be prepared to get dirty as we get up-close to our local soil and rocks. With lots of hands-on play we learn how soil is made, rocks are formed and test how strong our rocks are. This is a great family program for the ages of 2-4 yrs old. Meet at the Hilton Nature Center. 1101 Hilton Avenue, Catonsville MD 21228. Please call 410-461-5005 in advance to sign up. *Cost: \$2 per person.*

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MAY

May 1: Birds of a Feather - Hilton 10 am -12 pm.

Come and learn about our feathered friends as we construct a gourd bird house. This is a great family program for the ages of 8 and up. Meet at shelter 245 in the Hilton area. 1101 Hilton Avenue, Catonsville MD 21228. Please call 410-461-5005 in advance to sign up. *Cost:* \$3 per person.

May 1: Bad Bad Plants - Avalon 11am – 12 pm.

Have you ever thrown a dead plant outside thinking it would do no harm? Or maybe it does!? This program can answer that question for you. Be prepared to explore the world of invasive species and let your imaginations run wild. This is a great family program for ages 8–12 yrs. Meet at Lost Lake in the Avalon Area of Patapsco Valley State Park. 5120 South Street, Halethorpe, MD 21227. Please call 410-461-5005 in advance. *Cost: \$2 per person.*.

May 2: Intro to Camping - Hilton 1-3 p.m.

Have you ever camped before? Learn the basics of camping from a real camp host. Find out how to stay dry, eat well, and enjoy the great outdoors. Get tips and tricks to make camping even more fun. Bring your own tent for a trial set up. This program is suitable for families interested in camping. All age groups are welcome. Meet at shelter 245 ,1101 Hilton Avenue Catonsville, MD 21228. Please call 410-461-5005 in advance to sign up. *Cost: Free!*

May 2: 11th Annual Garlic Mustard Challenge - Avalon 12-4:30pm.

Come help us remove the highly invasive Garlic Mustard! This is an annual event involving poster contests, weed pulling contests and chef contests. For more information, visit http://www.patapscoheritagegreenway.org/garlic.html. Registration required. Email patapscofriend@gmail.com. *Cost: Free!*

May 2: Serpentine Barrens Spring Butterflies - Soldiers Delight 1-4 pm.

Butterfly expert Dick Smith will present a short slide show on barrens butterflies and then lead us on a 2 mile hike through the globally rare serpentine barrens ecosystem at Soldiers Delight. We will search for locally occurring and serpentine-endemic midspring butterflies such as the fragile Falcate Orangetip, the small and attractively bark-scalloped Eastern Pine Elfin, and the bluestem grass dependent Cobweb and Dusted Skippers. Additionally, we will examine and identify several of the native grasses and wildflowers seldom seen in abundance elsewhere around Maryland. Close-focus binoculars are recommended, but butterfly net-and-release (with in-jar identification) will be conducted by the leader. This is a great program for families of all ages. Hike will be cancelled if raining or overcast, but slideshow will be presented regardless of weather status. Meet at the Soldiers Delight Visitor Center. 5100 Deer Park Road, Owings Mills, MD 21117. Please call 410-461-5005 in advance to sign up. Cost: Free!

May3: Stream Exploration - Avalon 10 am - 12 pm.

Have you ever wondered what was living in the streams in our area or are you tired of just sitting around the house with nothing to do? Well, come join a Park Ranger to get a hands-on experience learning about the organisms that call our streams home. Please bring clothes you don't mind getting wet! Meet at the Lost Lake picnic tables, 5120 South Street, Halethorpe, MD 21227. Please call 410-461-5005 in advance. *Cost: \$2 per person*.



May 4: Spring Flowers - Hilton 10am –12 pm. See if those April showers brought May flowers. Through story, hands-on activities and crafts, explore wildflowers in the

woodland and garden. Meet at the Hilton Nature Center, 1101 Hilton Avenue, Catonsville MD 21228. Please call 410-461-5005 in advance to sign up. *Cost: \$3 per person*

人 May 6: History Walk - Avalon 6-8pm.

Join a Volunteer Ranger for a 4 mile hike as we examine the remarkable 400 year history of Patapsco River Valley, "the river that built America". Bring water and wear comfortable shoes. This is a great family program for the ages 9 and up. Meet at the Avalon History Center parking lot. 5120 South Street, Halethorpe, MD 21227. Please call 410-461-5005 in advance. *Cost: Free!*

May 8: Owl Prowl - Soldiers Delight 8-10pm.

Take a 1 mile hike to listen for owls, followed by a program with owls from Scales & Tales. Wear sturdy shoes & bring water. This is a great family program for the ages of 6 and up. Meet at Visitors Center. 5100 Deer Park Road, Owings Mills, MD 21117. *Cost:* \$5 per person.

May 8: Star-gazing Program - Soldiers Delight 8-10p.m.

Come join volunteers from the Westminster Astronomy Club for an evening of star-gazing. Find out what happens when you get between a mother bear and her cub? All programs are Rain or Shine. May highlight: Mighty Creatures of the night: Bears, Dragons, and Lions! 5100 Deer Park Road, Owings Mills, MD 21117. Please call 410-549-3026 in advance to sign-up or for more information. *Cost: Free! Donations welcome*

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May 9: Story – Telling Hour - Soldiers Delight 1-2 pm. A Volunteer Ranger will read short stories with nature or animal themes in the Soldiers Delight Visitor Center. Suitable for children accompanied by an adult. Meet at Visitor Center. 5100 Deer Park Road, Owings Mills, MD 21117. Please call 410-461-5005 in advance to sign up. Cost: Free!

May 12: Little Shoots: Explore Trees - Hilton 10 am -12 pm. Celebrate spring as the trees burst into life. With hands-on activities and crafts, learn the parts of a tree, all the wonderful things that trees provide and what they need to survive. Includes a short hike. This is a great family program for the ages of 2-4 yrs old. Meet at the Hilton Nature Center, 1101 Hilton Avenue Catonsville, MD 21228. Please call 410-461-5005 in advance to sign up. *Cost: \$3 per person*

May 15: Bird Hike - McKeldin 8-11am.

Join a Park Ranger on a leisurely bird hike through the McKeldin area trails. Here is your chance to see and hear some of our local and migrant birds in a variety of habitats. The hike welcomes birders of all skill levels from beginning bird-watchers to advanced birders. Wear sturdy shoes, bring water and binoculars, and be prepared to hike up to a mile. This program is suitable for patrons 14 yrs and up. Meet at the parking lot near the contact station. 11676 Marriottsville Road, Marriottsville MD 21104. Please call 410-461-5005 in advance to sign up. *Cost: \$2 per person*.

May 18: Nature Sprouts: Nature Exploration - Hilton 10 am -12pm.

We will explore the world of nature with stories and puppets before creating our own artwork using natural materials and paints – be prepared to get dirty. This is a great family program for the ages of 2-4 yrs old. 1101 Hilton Avenue Catonsville, MD 21228. Please call 410-461-5005 in advance to sign up. *Cost: \$3 per person*.

May 19: Fun Hike - Avalon 6-8pm.

Join a Volunteer Ranger for the vigorous hike that affords you an expansive view of the Patapsco River Valley. The loop is about two miles long, so wear sturdy shoes and bring water. This program is suitable for the ages of 7 to adult. Meet in the Orange Grove Area. *Cost: Free!*

May 23: Story – Telling Hour - Soldiers Delight 1-2 pm. A Volunteer Ranger will read short stories with a nature or animal theme in the Soldiers Delight Visitor Center suitable for children accompanied by an adult. Meet at Visitor Center. 5100 Deer Park Road, Owings Mills, MD 21117. Please call 410-461-5005 in advance to sign up. Cost: Free!

May 23: Find Your Way - McKeldin 10-12 pm.

Knowing where you are and where you are going is always important, especially if you're hiking. Come to the McKeldin area and learn skills that will help keep you on the right course. Participants will discover the basics of map reading and compass

use. Preparing for a hike and actions to take if lost will also be discussed. Wear comfortable shoes and bring water. For ages 7 to 14 yrs. 11676 Marriottsville Road, Marriottsville, MD 21104. Group will meet at picnic area adjacent to contact station. Please call 410-461-5005 in advance to sign up. *Cost: \$2 per person.*.

May 26: Little Shoots: Super Senses - Hilton 10 am-12pm. Explore the spring season using our 5 senses to expand our view of nature. Take a short hike with lots of hands-on activities and games. This is a great family program for the ages of 2-4 yr olds. Meet at the Hilton Nature Center,1101 Hilton Avenue Catonsville, MD 21228. Please call 410-461-5005 in advance to sign up. *Cost: \$2 per person.*

May 26: History Walk - Avalon 6-7:15pm.

Join a Volunteer Ranger for a casual walk and talk about the 400 year history of the Orange Grove Area. This walk will include history of the Indians, the mills and Bloede Dam along the Patapsco River. This program is suitable for ages 10 & up and adults are welcome to join. Meet in the Orange Grove parking lot. 5120 South Street, Halethorpe, MD 21227. Please call 410-461-5005 in advance. *Cost: Free!*



JUNE

June 1: Nature Sprouts: Frog Hops - Avalon 10 am -12pm. Hop into spring as we look at how these metamorphosing marvels grow from egg to adult. Meet a frog and tadpole and see if you can hop like a frog. Visit the lake and look for other amphibians along the stream. Wear water shoes if you want to get wet. Meet at Lost Lake located in the Avalon Area. 5120 South Street, Halethorpe, MD 21227. Please call 410-461-5005 in advance. Cost: \$2 per person

June 5: Friday Hikes - Avalon 10 am-12pm.

Take a guided hike with a park naturalist. Learn about forest and stream ecology in Patapsco Valley State Park. This is a great family program for the ages of 6 and up. Hikes can be easy to difficult, Make sure to wear appropriate clothing, hiking shoes, and bring water. Meet at the Avalon History Center, 5254 South St., Halethorpe, MD 21227. Please call 410-461-5005 in advance to sign up. *Cost:* \$2 per person.

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June 5: Leave it to Beavers - Hilton 10 am -12pm.

Hey kids, come and learn from a park naturalist about a most gifted engineer. Make a bark picture frame for your favorite summer photo. This is a great family program for the ages 4 and up. Meet in in the Hilton Area at shelter 245. 1101 Hilton Avenue Catonsville, MD 21228. Please call 410-461-5005 in advance to sign up. *Cost: \$2 per person*



June 6: Story – Telling Hour - Soldiers Delight 1-2 pm.

A Volunteer Ranger will read short stories with a nature or animal theme in the Soldiers Delight Visitor Center. Suitable for children accompanied by an adult. Meet at Visitor Center. 5100 Deer Park Road, Owings Mills, MD 21117. Please call 410-461-5005 in advance to sign up. *Cost: Free!*

June 9: Little Shoots: Reptiles - Hilton 10-12pm.

Using live animals from the Scales & Tales program and lots of hands-on activities, we will explore the lives of turtles, snakes and lizards and learn why we should protect them. This is a great family program for the ages of 3-5 yrs. Meet at the Hilton Nature Center. 101 Hilton Avenue Catonsville, MD 21228. Please call 410-461-5005 in advance to sign up. *Cost:* \$5 per person.

June 12: Star-gazing Program -Soldiers Delight 8-10p.m.

Come join volunteers from the Westminster Astronomy Club for an evening of star-gazing. See a star during the day (Solar observing 3-5 pm) and several hundred thousand that night (star gazing 8-11 pm). All programs are Rain or Shine. June highlight: Lyrid meteor shower an Hercules' mighty armpit returns. 5100 Deer Park Road, Owings Mills, MD 21117. Please call 410-549-3026 in advance to sign-up or for more information. *Cost:* Free!

June 12: Slash and Burn - Soldiers Delight 10-11 am.

Put on your hiking boots and get ready to explore the scorched ground at Soldiers Delight Natural Environment Area. you will walk a mile and a half through this rough but unique terrain as you listen to a Ranger speak of the past and present, of this endangered realm's cycle of fire and renewal. This is a great program for the ages of 7 and up. Meet at the Soldiers Delight Visitor Center. After the program you are welcome to tour the Soldiers Delight exhibit hall. 5100 Deer Park Road, Owings Mills, MD 21117. Please call 410-461-5005 in advance to sign up. *Cost: \$2 per person*.

June 12: Bad Bad plants - Avalon 11–12 pm.

Have you ever thrown a dead plant outside thinking it would do no harm? Or maybe it does!? This program can answer that question for you. Be prepared to explore the world of invasive species and let your imaginations run wild. This is a great family program for ages 8–12 yrs. Meet at Lost Lake in the Avalon Area of Patapsco Valley State Park. 5120 South Street, Halethorpe, MD 21227. Please call 410-461-5005 in advance. *Cost: \$2 per person*.

June 13: Bird Hike - McKeldin 8-11am.

Join a park naturalist on a leisurely bird hike through the McKeldin area trails. Here is your chance to see and hear some of our local and migrant birds in a variety of habitats. The hike welcomes birders of all skill levels from beginning birdwatchers to advanced birders. Wear sturdy shoes, bring water and binoculars, and be prepared to hike up to a mile. This program is suitable for patrons 14 yrs old and up. Meet at the parking lot near the contact station. 11676 Marriottsville Road, Marriottsville MD 21104 Please call 410-461-5005 in advance to sign up. *Cost: \$2 per person*.

June 19: Playground Safety for the Public - Hilton 12-1 pm.

Come out and learn a little playground safety. Learn how to keep your child safe in, on, and around public playgrounds. This program is suitable for the ages of 11 and up. Meet at the Hilton playground. 1101 Hilton Avenue Catonsville, MD 21228. Please call 410-461-5005 in advance to sign up. *Cost:* \$2 per person.

June 23: Don't Bug Me - McKeldin 10-12pm.

Let's catch some bugs! Join a Park Ranger in searching for insects and identifying them. Then create a bug of your own to take home. Meet at the parking lot near the contact station. 11676 Marriottsville Road, Marriottsville MD 21104. For ages 6-12 yrs. Please call 410-461-5005 in advance to sign up. *Cost:* \$5 per person (includes materials).

June 26: Seeking Snakes - McKeldin 10-12pm.

One of Patapsco Valley Park's most misunderstood creatures is the snake. For centuries this fascinating reptile has been both loathed and feared by humans. Come to the McKeldin area of the park and discover more about this important member of the park's diverse ecosystem. Program participants will also join a Park Ranger on a short "Snake Safari", so wear comfortable shoes. For ages 7 yrs and up. 11676 Marriottsville Road, Marriottsville, MD 21104. Group will meet at picnic area adjacent to the Rapids area parking lot. Please call 410-461-5005 in advance to sign up. *Cost: \$2 per person*.

June 27: Story – Telling Hour - Soldiers Delight 1-2 pm.

A Volunteer Ranger will read short stories with a nature or animal theme in the Soldiers Delight Visitor Center suitable for children accompanied by an adult. Meet at Visitor Center. 5100 Deer Park Road, Owings Mills, MD 21117. Please call 410-461-5005 in advance to sign up. *Cost: Free!*

July

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July 8: Stream Exploration - Avalon 10 am-12 pm.

Have you ever wondered what was living in the streams in our area or are you tired of just sitting around the house with nothing to do? Well, come join a Park Ranger to get a hands-on experience learning about the organisms that call our streams home. Please bring clothes you don't mind getting wet! Meet at the Lost Lake picnic tables, 5120 South Street, Halethorpe, MD 21227. Please call 410-461-5005 in advance. Cost: \$2 per person.

July 10: Bird Hike - McKeldin 8-11am.

Join a Park Ranger on a leisurely bird hike through the McKeldin area trails. Here is your chance to see and hear some of our local and migrant birds in a variety of habitats. The hike welcomes birders of all skill levels from beginning bird-watchers to advanced birders. Wear sturdy shoes, bring water and binoculars, and be prepared to hike up to a mile. This program is suitable for patrons 14 yrs and up. Meet at the parking lot near the contact station. 11676 Marriottsville Road, Marriottsville MD 21104. Please call 410-461-5005 in advance to sign up. Cost: \$2 per



July 10: Star-gazing Program - Soldiers Delight 8-10pm.

Come join volunteers from the Westminster Astronomy Club for an evening of star-gazing. We will use the most powerful word known to mankind, the "I"-Word, to journey to the stars. Don't know what the "I" word is, join us and find out. All programs are Rain or Shine. July highlight: Journey to the center of our galaxy. 5100 Deer Park Road, Owings Mills, MD 21117. Please call 410-549-3026 in advance to sign-up or for more information. Cost: Free! Donations welcome.

5. July11: Story – Telling Hour - Soldiers Delight 1-2 pm.

A Volunteer Ranger will read short stories with a nature or animal theme in the Soldiers Delight Visitor Center suitable for children accompanied by an adult. Meet at Visitor Center. 5100 Deer Park Road, Owings Mills, MD 21117. Please call 410-461-5005 in advance to sign up. Cost: Free!

July17: CCC Camp History - Avalon 12-1pm.

Come out with a Park Ranger and learn some of the history of the CCC or Civilian Conservation Corp camp that was in the Avalon area. Learn about day to day life and some of the projects that they did for this area. This is a great family program for the ages of 10 and up. Meet at the Avalon History center, 5120 South Street, Halethorpe, MD 21227. Please call 410-461-5005 in advance. Cost: \$2 per person.

July 18: Seeking Snakes - McKeldin 10-12pm.

One of Patapsco Valley Park's most misunderstood creatures is the snake. For centuries this fascinating reptile has been both loathed and feared by humans. Come to the McKeldin area of the park and discover more about this important member of the park's diverse ecosystem. Program participants will also join a Park Ranger on a short "Snake Safari", so wear comfortable shoes. For ages 7 yrs and up. 11676 Marriottsville Road, Marriottsville, MD 21104. Group will meet at picnic area adjacent to the Rapids area parking lot. Please call 410-461-5005 in advance to sign up. Cost: \$2 per person.

📐 July 22: History Walk - Avalon 6-7:15pm.

Join a Volunteer Ranger for a casual walk and talk about the 400 year history of the Orange Grove Area. This walk will include history of the Indians, the mills and Bloede Dam along the Patapsco River. This program is suitable for ages 10 & up and adults are welcome to join. Meet in the Orange Grove parking lot. 5120 South Street, Halethorpe, MD 21227. Please call 410-461-5005 in advance. Cost: Free!

July 25: Story – Telling Hour - Soldiers Delight 1-2 pm.

A Volunteer Ranger will read short stories with a nature or animal theme in the Soldiers Delight Visitor Center suitable for children accompanied by an adult. Meet at Visitor Center. 5100 Deer Park Road, Owings Mills, MD 21117. Please call 410-461-5005 in advance to sign up. Cost: Free!



Farewell to the Union Dam

(Continued from pg 1)

Because of the many environmental and water quality issues these dams represent, including stemming the natural flow of the river, warming and decreasing the level of oxygen in the water and collecting grainy sediment immediately upstream, conservationists and recreationalists alike are applauding this plan. Ultimately, the removal of these dams will also allow fish to swim upstream and spawn in the Patapsco, however Bloede Dam (the furthest downstream) will have to be removed before this can happen and the full impact is seen among fish species.

During the removal of Union Dam, certain portions of the river and adjacent trails will need to remain closed to public use. These closures include:

- Paddlers -- Patapsco River closed between the CSX Tunnel to the North of the Dam and River Ridge Trail in the Hollofield Area of Patapsco (South of the Dam). Paddlers must pull out of the river at Old Frederick Road. There are no other areas to exit the river prior to the construction zone. Paddlers will not be allowed to hike through the construction zone.
- **Fishermen** -- Patapsco River will be closed to activity between CSX Tunnel to the North and River Ridge Trail to the South Hollofield Area.
- Hikers and Bikers -- Non-maintained trails from Rockhaven Avenue from the Pickall Area will be closed prior to arriving at the river (Baltimore County side). Mill Race Trail on the Baltimore County side of the river will be closed near the construction zone. Union Dam Trail will be closed prior to reaching the river. River Ridge Trail will allow you to access the river, but you will not be able to travel upstream along the river. Non-maintained trail along the river (Howard County side) will be closed from the CSX Tunnel downstream to River Ridge Trail.

Work on Union Dam is scheduled to be complete around the end of April, so please call the park office at 410-461-5005, for the most up-to-date information regarding trail and river closures.



Welcome Maegan Cooper!

Maegan Cooper joined the Patapsco Valley State Park staff on February 24, 2010 as the new Volunteer Coordinator. Maegan replaces Amy Shoop who took a position with Patuxent Wildlife Refuge in October 2009.

Maegan is a new resident of Maryland, moving to the state in mid-November from Charleston, South Carolina. However, previous to that, she spent five years in the Northern Virginia area working in pharmaceutical research.

Maegan has an undergraduate degree in biology with minors in chemistry and marine science from Coastal Carolina University. After college, Maegan worked in a variety of places including veterinary clinics, pet grooming salons, the Cleveland Metro parks Zoo, and SeaWorld before settling in Northern

Virginia. In 2007, Maegan and her husband, Kurt, relocated to Charleston for her to begin a Master's degree in Environmental Studies at the College of Charleston. Her Master's project involved developing a volunteer recruitment and retention plan for the sea turtle nesting program at Edisto Beach State Park in Edisto Island, South Carolina. During her project, Maegan built the volunteer program from scratch and learned a lot about volunteer retention and recognition. When Maegan graduated in August 2009, the job hunt began to relocate back "North", closer to family and friends.

"Working with volunteers and seeing them experience nature first hand is one of the greatest joys I've ever experienced" says Maegan. "The relationships you build working together can be life-changing and I can't wait to meet all the wonderful volunteers that donate their time to our park!"

Maegan and Kurt enjoy being outdoors, visiting aquariums, and spending time with their very pampered husky-shepherd mix, Shadow. They are also excited to be back in an area that experiences four seasons – although they could do without the 52 inches of snow they received just a few weeks ago!

Please join us in welcoming Maegan!

Stocking up

By: Rob Dyke



Photo by: Rob Dyke

Ever wonder where the fish you see in the river came from? You may be surprised! Most may assume that they came from momma and papa fish right there in the river. However, most of the trout seen in the Patapsco River come from near Hagerstown. These fish are farm raised and released into the river.

Todd Heerd of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources Inland Fisheries coordinates with park staff for access and for help releasing the fish. Heerd, a Central Region Biologist, stated "Our usual starting time is 9:30-10:00 when the stocking truck arrives from the hatchery. We try to get the trout off of the truck as quickly as possible to prevent stress." Their trek takes them from Sykesville downriver to the Avalon area. The fish are offloaded from the truck with a net. They are then transported to the river via five gallon buckets, where the fish are released.

The trout you see in the Patapsco come from the Albert Powell State Fish Hatchery near Hagerstown. To take a video tour of the Hatchery please visit http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GZITJno8Of0

Why do we stock our rivers and streams? In the case of the trout we do it for many reasons. There is an incredible economic benefit to the state. The trout can longer survive in the warm water of many of our rivers.

According to the American Sports fishing Association, Maryland has estimated that the state has 364,000 freshwater fishermen that will spend almost \$275 million in fishing related retail sales. It is an incredible economic benefit to the state that brings in \$35 million in taxes. Trout are also stocked because their environment has changed dramatically.

Trout are stocked in our rivers because they can no longer survive in the warm water.

"Since trout are temperature dependant, the average stocked trout can live until water temperatures start running consistently in the low to mid 70's. The trout we stock in the spring typically survive until early June with a handful that may survive until August if they can find a cold spring tributary providing cold water to the stream. Fall stocked trout will survive until early June of the next year if they are not caught and kept." Said Heerd

What can you do to help? Heerd states "Water temperature is the greatest limiting factor for wild trout in our State. The number one thing Marylanders can do is keep their streams shaded and buffered and prevent warm water runoff from entering directly into the stream following storm events." The State of Maryland has a tree planting program Maryland Plant Trees. If you visit http://www.trees.maryland.gov/ you can get great information and a coupon for purchasing a tree!

The next time you visit Patapsco Valley State Park peer into the water and see if you can find one of those elusive speckled fish.

Maryland Junior Rangers & Park Pals Programs

Join us this summer for the Maryland Park Pals (ages 4 - 7) & Junior Rangers (ages 8 - 14) programs at Patapsco Valley State Park. You will have fun with nature arts and crafts, hikes, nature games and hands-on activities. There are several levels of achievement along the Junior Ranger trail with certificates, patches and awards for each level. The requirements for Junior Rangers include completing an activity book, attending a Ranger Round-Up and participating in a service project. Park Pals have no requirements, and will receive a patch at the end of the program.

The following sessions are being offered at several locations throughout the park. Please complete the registration form below and indicate which session your child/children will be participating in.

There is a non-refundable service charge of \$30.00 for the first child and \$20 for each additional child.

<u>Sessions:</u> {1} <u>Soldiers Delight Area</u> :	Ages 8-14	Tuesdays	July 13 - August 10	10:00 AM – 12:30 PM
{2} Orange Grove Area:	Ages 8-14	Mondays	July 12 – August 9	10:00 AM – 12:30 PM
{3} Hilton Area:	Ages 8-14	Week-long	July 19 – July 23	10:00 AM – 12:30 PM
{4} Hilton Area:	Ages 4-7	Week-long	July 26 - July 30	10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Operation TLC is the service project for the Junior Rangers and will be held on Saturday, July 24 from 10:00 AM - 12:30 PM. Location to be determined.

On August 8th, there will be a graduation for Junior Rangers & Park Pals including games, songs, and an awards ceremony. Afterwards, families are invited to an optional campout together at the park! It will be fun for the whole family!

For more information or registration forms please call: 410-461-5005

	ur payment to the address below. Please make checks payable to DNR. egistration Form		
Child's Name:	Session #: 1 2 3 4 (please circle one)		
Child's Age: D.O.B.:			
Parent or Guardian	Emergency #:		
Address:	Home Phone:		
	WorkPhone:		
Email address:			
Known allergies or health restrictions:			
Has your child participated in Maryland Junior Rangers? _			
If yes, which park?			
Last level completed?			
Parent or Guardian Signature:	Date:		

Please fill out a registration form for EACH child and send it with your check payable to DNR to:

Maryland Junior Rangers Program c/o Patapsco Valley State Park Headquarters 8020 Baltimore National Pike Ellicott City, MD 21043

Patapsco Valley State Park ADOPT-A-TRAIL PROGRAM

ADOPT-A-TRAIL is an all-volunteer program, which gives the general public an opportunity to become actively involved in conserving and maintaining the vast beauty and natural wealth of the Patapsco Valley State Park trail system. Volunteers assist the park staff with the vital task of improving, monitoring, and maintaining the many trails within Patapsco Valley State Park's boundaries.

Patapsco Valley State Park offers one of the finest trail systems in the state with about 70 miles of maintained trails and 100 miles of unmaintained trails. Patapsco's trails take visitors to the more fascinating areas of the park including unique rock formations, waterfalls, breathtaking overlooks, and scenic riversides. Outdoor enthusiasts from the tri-state area take advantage of the recreational opportunities provided by Patapsco Valley State Park trails on a regular basis.

With this excessive use, trails can quickly deteriorate without proper care and maintenance. For this reason, Patapsco Valley State Park is seeking citizens to help care for these assets. Volunteers who choose to participate in the Adopt-A-Trail will receive training and instructions on proper trail maintenance techniques.

WHO CAN ADOPT A TRAIL? All that is required is to be at least 18 years of age and have a genuine concern for the well-being of our natural resources. Garden clubs, scout troops, youth groups, special interest clubs, church organizations, families, schools and private industry are encouraged to participate. Persons who are 16 or 17 years old can also apply, but require a waiver signed by their guardians.

<u>HOW TO GET STARTED</u>: Request an Adopt-A-Trail application from the park's volunteer coordinator. If you are not already a registered park volunteer, you will also need to complete a volunteer registration form. Once you are registered and your application has been accepted, you will be invited to participate in the Adopt-A-Trail training.

<u>VOLUNTEER RESPONIBILITIES</u>: Once trained, volunteers will be expected to prune, trim, control litter, remove large obstacles (rocks and tree limbs) and report vandalism on their designated section of trail on a regular basis. During the high season between Memorial Day and Labor Day, volunteers will be expected to hike their designated section of trail at least once per week. Following each time out on the trail, the volunteer will email a report to the volunteer coordinator noting their start and end times, any tasks performed, and any issues requiring the attention of the park staff.

<u>BENEFITS TO THE VOLUNTEER</u>: In addition to the training, volunteers will be given the opportunity to learn new skills, develop personal talents and share knowledge with others. The satisfaction and gratification gained through "giving back" is a reward in itself. Help us in our quest to protect and maintain our valuable natural resources.

• For more information or to request an application, please contact: Maegan Cooper, Volunteer Coordinator, Patapsco Valley State Park, 8020 Baltimore National Pike, Ellicott City, MD 1043, (410) 465-3287 (office), (410) 418-9750 (fax), Macooper@dnr.state.md.us.

2010 Volunteer Trail Work Days

Saturday, April 10th
Saturday, April 24th
Saturday, May 8th
Saturday, May 22th
Saturday, June 5th (National Trails day)
Saturday, Sept, 25th (National Public Lands Day)
Saturday, Oct. 16th
Saturday, Nov. 6th

These trails days are open to anyone who would like to help us on our trails.. All trail projects will be run from 9am until 1pm. Volunteers will work side-by-side with members of the park's trail crew. To participate, volunteers need to be at least 16 years old and should bring work gloves, sturdy footwear, hat, water, safety glasses, sunscreen, insect repellent, snacks, any emergency medications, etc. Volunteer trail work days will not be held if it rains. Please note that for each date you must sign up in advance in order to be able to participate. The actual location of each trail project will depend on the priorities of the trail crew and the number of volunteers that sign up. Every volunteer who signs up will be notified by email a day or two before each date for information regarding the meeting time and location, as well as any items they should bring.

If you would like to help us maintain the park's trails, please contact the park's volunteer coordinator, Maegan cooper at (410) 465-3287, or by email at Macooper@dnr.state.md.us.



ONLINE INFORMATION

The **Patapsco Tributary** is also available on the Patapsco Valley State Park webpage:

http://www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/central/patapscovalley.html

Visit the DNR website to view the Online Events Calendar & for information on camping reservations, special events, hunting & fishing, and more: www.dnr.maryland.gov

Directions to Areas of Patapsco Valley State Park

Pickall Area, 8125 Johnnycake Road, Baltimore 21207 From the Beltway (I-695): Take Security Blvd. (Exit 17) westbound. Go 0.5 mile and turn left on North Rolling Rd. Take next right (Fairbrook Rd) Go 1 mile, turn left onto Johnnycake Rd. Go 1.5 miles. Park entrance is on the left.

From Rt. 40: Take Rt.40 to North Rolling Rd. toward Security Square Mall. Go 2.5 miles, turn left onto Fairbrook Rd. Follow above directions.

Hilton Area, 1100 Hilton Ave., Catonsville 21228
From the Beltway (I-695):
Take Frederick Rd. (Exit 13)
through Catonsville to South Rolling Rd. Turn left and continue straight onto Hilton Ave. Follow Hilton Ave. 1.5 miles to the park entrance on right.

From Howard County:

Follow Frederick Rd. through Ellicott City into Baltimore County, turn right at South Rolling Rd. and follow directions above.

<u>Hollofield Area</u>, 8020 Baltimore National Pike, Ellicott City 21043

From the Beltway (I-695):

Take Rt. 40 West, (Exit 15). Follow Rt. 40 West 2 miles to the park entrance on the right.

From I-70/Route 29

Take Rt. 29 South (Exit 87) to Rt. 40 East 2 miles to the park entrance on the right.

McKeldin Area, 11676 Marriottsville Road Marriottsville 21104 From I-695/I-70 West: Take I-70 to Mar-

riottsville Rd.(Exit 83). Go North for 4 miles to the park entrance on the right.

From I-70 East:

Take Rt. 40 to Marriottsville Rd. Turn left. Park entrance is 5 miles on the right.

From Rt. 26:

Take Rt. 26 to Marriottsville Rd. Go South 4 miles, park entrance is on the left.

Avalon/Glen Artney/Orange Grove and Lost Lake Areas, 5120 South St., Halethorpe 21227

From the Beltway (I-695):

Take Rt. 1 (exit 12A) toward Elkridge. Follow Rt. 1 South about 3 miles to South St. Turn right. Park entrance on the left.

From I-95:

Take I-195 East toward BWI. From I-195 take Rt. I South (Exit 3) and turn right toward Elkridge. Turn right onto South Street. Park entrance is on the left.

From Howard County: Follow Rt. 1 through Elkridge and into Baltimore County. Turn left onto South St. Park entrance is on the left.

Soldiers Delight NEA, 5100 Deer Park Road, Owings Mills, 21117

From the Beltway (I-695): Take I-795 to Franklin Blvd. West, turn right. Bear right at Church Rd. Turn left at stop sign onto Berrymans Lane. Turn left at Deer Park Rd. and go for 2.5 miles, to Visitor Center entrance on the right.

From Rt. 26 West: Take Rt. 26 to Wards Chapel Rd. Turn Left. Follow Wards Chapel to stop sign, and turn right onto Deer Park Rd. Entrance is 1 mile on the right.

Morgan Run NEA, Ben Rose Lane, Eldersburg 21784

From MD #26 & MD #97 west of Eldersburg, go 2 miles north on #97 to Bartholow Road. Go right on Bartholow about 0.1 mile, turn left onto Jim Bowers Road & left again immediately onto Ben Rose Lane. Go about 0.5 mile to end.



Maryland Department of Natural Resources Patapsco Valley State Park 8020 Baltimore National Pike Ellicott City, MD 21043

Phone: 410-461-5005
Fax: 410-418-9750
Email: park-patapsco@dnr.state.md.us
TTY users call via the MD Relay



Martin O'Malley, Governor John R. Griffin, Secretary

website: www.dnr.Maryland.gov Toll-free in MD: 1-877-620-8DNR

Welcome to the Patapsco Tributary

The *Tributary* is a park wide program newsletter published twice per year through the cooperative efforts of park staff and volunteers. Your suggestions and/or opinions are welcome and can be delivered to Park Management at the above phone or fax numbers or email address.

Patapsco Valley State Park Hours of Operation:

Park Headquarters: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. phone 410-461-5005

Scales & Tales: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. phone 410-461-5005

Soldiers Delight NEA: phone 410-922-3044 (call for Visitor Center hours)

Avalon History Center: phone 410-737-0451 (call for History Center hours)

ALL OTHER AREAS OF THE PARK ARE OPEN FROM 9 AM TO SUNSET

TO MAKE SHELTER OR CAMPING RESERVATIONS CALL: 1-888-432-CAMP or log on to http://reservations.dnr.state.md.us





PARK WATCH
In case of emergency
dial 911
To report a violation in
the Park or to contact a
Ranger call
1-800-825-PARK

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